

State of Alaska Department of Administration

Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC)

Presentation to House Administration Finance Subcommittee

Heather Hebdon, Executive Director

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APOC's Mission

“To encourage the public's confidence in their elected and appointed officials by administering Alaska's disclosure statutes and publishing financial information regarding the activities of election campaigns, public officials, lobbyists and lobbyist employers.”

- Publish Financial Disclosure Data
- Provide Direct Service to the General Public and Filers
- Conduct Routine Audits of Reports
- Notify Filers of Delinquent Reports and Assess Civil Penalties for Late-Filed Reports
- Issue Advisory Opinions
- Investigate and Adjudicate Formal Complaints



Publish Financial Disclosure Data

- Campaign Disclosure
 - State and Local Candidates
 - Political Action Committees, Political Parties, Independent Expenditure
- Public Official / Legislative Financial Disclosure
 - Legislators, Legislative Directors and Members of Legislative Ethics Committee
 - Governor/Lt. Governor and Assistants
 - Department Commissioners and Deputies, Division Directors and Deputies, Special Assistants and Legislative Liaisons
 - Judicial Officers
 - Members of State Boards & Commissions
 - City/Borough Mayors, Assembly/City Council Members, School Board Members
- Lobbyist and Employers of Lobbyists



Provide Direct Service to the General Public and Filers

- Respond to Public Inquiries
 - Possible Violations
 - Searching Reports and Available Data
- Assist Filers with Compliance
 - Provide Guidance of Standard Filing Requirements
 - Negotiating Online Filing System
 - Research Non-Typical Inquiries / Remedial Action
 - Follow Up With Campaigns Re Public Inquiries / Possible Violations
- Respond to Public Records Requests



Notify Filers of Delinquent Reports / Assess Civil Penalties

- Issue Notices of Delinquent Reports
 - Within 10 Days
- Assess Civil Penalties
 - Within 14 Days
 - Subject to Appeal to Commission
 - Assist Filers Through Appeal Process
 - Draft Recommendations for Commission Consideration
 - Delinquent Filers Subject to Referral and Collections via Attorney General's Office



Issue Advisory Opinions/Investigate and Adjudicate Complaints

- Issue Advisory Opinions
 - Interpret Disclosure Laws And Apply To Specific Scenarios
 - Drafts To Be Issued Within 7 Days
- Investigate / Adjudicate Complaints
 - Conduct Investigations, Collect Facts, Determine Violations
 - Draft Investigation Reports/Recommendations For Commission Consideration
 - Investigation Reports To Be Issued Within 30 Days



APOC's Challenges

- Budget – Relies on High Vacancy Factor to Balance
 - Transfers from Personal Services Allocation to Cover Services (SOA Chargebacks)
 - Administrative Duties Absorbed By Senior Staff
 - Less Time For Substantive Work
- Meeting Statutory Timelines With Ongoing Vacancies
 - Backlog of Complaint Matters
 - Issuing Timely Notices
- Staff Turnover
 - Significant Workload
 - Increasing Public Scrutiny Re Elections
 - Negative Public Perception



APOC's Budget (\$ in thousands)

	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
1000 Personal Services	\$790.0	\$948.4	\$933.9	\$1,005.3	\$1,030.9
2000 Travel	\$2.8	\$9.0	\$9.0	\$9.0	\$9.0
3000 Services	\$140.5	\$117.2	\$112.6	\$105.7	\$102.0
4000 Commodities	\$16.0	\$16.0	\$16.0	\$8.0	\$8.0
Totals	\$949.3	\$1,090.6	\$1,071.5	\$1,128.0	\$1,149.9
Funding Source					
Unrestricted General Funds	\$804.0	\$938.3	\$922.1	\$970.6	\$989.3
Designated General Funds/PR	\$145.3	\$152.3	\$149.4	\$157.4	\$160.6



Department of Administration

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For more information, please contact Forrest Wolfe at forrest.wolfe@alaska.gov